

Governor Phil Murphy

Governor Murphy Announces Opening of COVID-19 Testing Site for New Jerseyans at Bergen County Community College

03/19/2020

Testing Site Will Open Daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Beginning on March 20 Open to New

Jersey Residents Experiencing Symptoms of Respiratory Illness

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy today announced the opening of a COVID-19 Community-Based Testing Site at Bergen Community College in Paramus. The testing site, established in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, will be staffed by the New Jersey Department of Health, the New Jersey State Police, and the New Jersey National Guard. Beginning on Friday, March 20th, the drive-thru testing center will be open seven days per week, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In order to be eligible for testing, individuals must be current New Jersey residents and experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness. Priority will be given to symptomatic individuals experiencing cough, fever (99.6F or above) and shortness of breath.

“Expanding access to testing is critical in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and flattening the curve in New Jersey,” **said Governor Murphy**. “I am grateful to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for their swift response in fulfilling our request for specimen collection kits and personal protective equipment so that we can successfully offer expansive drive-thru testing in New Jersey.”

“It is extremely important that only New Jersey residents with fever or signs or symptoms of respiratory illness visit the testing location,” **said New Jersey Department of Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli**. We must reserve our testing capacity for those who are sick and may expose others.”

“We are working tirelessly to contain the spread of the coronavirus in New Jersey,” **said Colonel Patrick Callahan, Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police**. “This testing site will be a tremendous asset to our mission and an invaluable health care resource for New Jersey citizens.

“The testing of residents is a mission the New Jersey National Guard is ready to assist with in the battle against COVID-19,” **said Brig. Gen. Jemal J. Beale, the Adjutant General and Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**. “Our Citizen Soldiers and Airmen stand ready to serve where ever the Governor needs us.”

Community-Based Testing Sites are for individuals who are experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness. Individuals who are not symptomatic will not be tested, as it diverts critical resources such as testing kits and laboratory materials from those who are ill. Each site will be provided with an allocation of 2,500 specimen collection kits and Personal Protective Equipment for all staff. The specimen collections will be transmitted to the contracted laboratory twice per day and results will be reported within 2-5 business days. Testing is free and will be covered by the federal government or personal insurance company. Individuals are encouraged to bring insurance cards if they have one.


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Community Based Testing Site Location

Bergen Community College
Paramus Campus – Lots B & C
400 Paramus Road
Paramus, NJ 07652

For more information about Community-Based Testing Sites, visit: [nj.gov/health](https://www.nj.gov/health)
(<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>)

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